

Uncle Sam Says "See America First"



"HIGHEST AND OLDEST LIVING THINGS"

BY JOHN ELFRITH WATKINS.
Washington, D. C.
"SEE America first," the new slogan first sounded in the West, has come echoing across prairie and mountain into the alert ear of Uncle Sam, and already has that gentleman arranged to tout it through his megaphone.

To help divert into the pockets of his own citizens the hundreds of millions of dollars annually spent in Europe by pleasure-seeking Americans he will forthwith launch two publicity enterprises, both under the direction of Secretary of the Interior Fisher, the official custodian of our public domains, scenic wonders and splendors.

Traveling Picture Gallery.
A traveling picture gallery is one of these devices which he has devised to whet the native appetite for our own home-made American scenery. The other is a lecture tour in charge of an eloquent government official who, with stereopticon, operator and moving picture man, will penetrate even into the Old World.

The traveling gallery includes eighty-four beautiful photographs of the scenic splendors of our national parks and natural monuments. Some of these pictures reproduce nature's symphony of color. Most of them are of great size (20 by 28 inches). Nearly all are framed, but some are stretched upon mats and panels.

This collection will be boxed up and shipped from one public library or similar institution to another throughout the country, each city having the benefit of the series generally for a fortnight. The institution borrowing the collection will pay "expressage" costs from the last place of exhibition, and thus each city will be charged these expenses in but one direction. The series has been prepared by L. P. Schuchter, chief of the publication division, Department of the Interior, who will start similar traveling galleries upon the road if public interest proves to be as great as is now anticipated. The cost of the enterprise to the government will be practically nil, as many of the views have been secured by government departments or loaned by owners of negatives.

Lecture Tour Arranged.
The lecture tour, which will follow suit, entirely independent of the traveling gallery, will be financed partly by American businessmen, although directed and conducted by a government official equipped with reliable data and a personal knowledge of the various regions to be described. The first lecture tour will be made in Europe—in national museums and before geographic societies or other associations of learning. The purpose of this enterprise is only partly commercial. Uncle Sam will take many people in proving to his Old World neighbors that he possesses a wealth of scenery unequalled in all Europe. In anticipation of the invasion a French editor has already broken out in exuberant and given voice to some doubtful legends. The slogan "See America first" is said to have been first put in the mouths of the people by Louis Hill, son

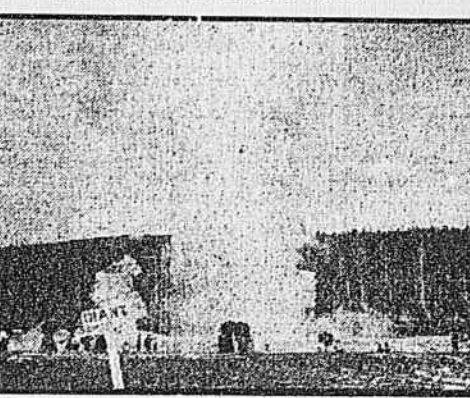
and successor of the famous "Empire builder," James J. Hill.
Already a "National See America First Association" has been formed and headquarters have been opened in Baltimore, where a "National See America First Convention" is, according to the schedule, to be held in May. The secretary of the association, Norman M. Parrott, of that city, told me today that each Governor has been asked to appoint twenty-five delegates to the "See America First Convention," that all had promised to co-operate, and that seventeen have thus far appointed delegates. The convention will devise means by which the State and Federal organizations, transportation interests, hotel and tourist associations may co-operate to induce tourists to see America's scenic wonders before viewing those of foreign lands.

Scenic Wonders in Miniature.
Miniature copies of our scenic splendor and natural monuments, photographs, panoramas and moving picture reproductions are features of proposed traveling exhibitions which the convention will consider as part of the general scheme. A permanent organization will also be considered—something akin to the conservation associations. And if the promoters of the movement make good, "See America first" will be as much of a byword as was "conservation" a few years ago. The new motto is being hung upon the walls of other organizations, notably the American Civic Association among whose functions are "the cultivation of higher ideals of beauty in America," the preservation and development of landscape and "the advancement of outdoor art." It was this association which recently led the successful fight against the commercial vandals who were converting Niagara's majestic cataract into a naked and arid ledge rock, and now it has its force against a bill, in both houses of Congress, providing for a Bureau of National Parks.

The "See America first" movement will receive a tremendous impetus if this bill, with its paltry appropriation of \$15,000, becomes law. One result will be the making of our scenic wonders more accessible. Although the tourist may now go directly to the Grand Canyon, and to the very gates of the Yosemite, Glacier and Yellowstone Parks, by rail, the roads therein, while good in winter, are uncomfortably dusty in summer. And the Sequoia National Park, where the tallest trees of the world are preserved, is forty miles from the nearest railway, while the lately discovered natural bridges of Utah are ninety-six miles by air line and 150 miles by trail from the nearest approach by rail.

Federal Publicity Bureau.
A Federal Publicity Bureau that will advertise our scenic splendors by spectacular and business-like methods is a purpose of this bill in Congress. "See America first" crusade. Beautifully colored posters, pictures and folders such as are proposed to be

IN THE GLACIER NATIONAL PARK.



IN THE YOSEMITE.



World's greatest Geyser, "The Giant," Yellowstone Park.

World's largest Natural Bridge, "The Rainbow," Utah. (Copyright by National Geographic Society)



GRAND CANYON OF THE COLORADO.

YELLOWSTONE PARK, THE MINERVA TERRACE.

displayed and distributed by this Publicity Bureau will cause the most hard-earned stay-at-home and stick-in-the-mud to write in the throes of the wanderlust. Some of the railway companies are showing Uncle Sam what he can do in this advertising line. One of them by the expenditure of a few thousand dollars has lately hung framed photographs of American scenery in the principal cities of the Orient, there to tempt European tourists to return home by way of America.

Many American tourists, after contemplating an itinerary covering our national wonders, decide upon a European trip because of uncertainty of hotel accommodations in our national parks. This current of travel would be turned inward by the proposed Bureau of Parks, for one of its further functions would be the promotion of uniform and standard accommodations for visitors, in whom confidence would be restored if assured of government regulation and supervision of the three b-e-c board and bath.

Our European Tourist Army.
American tourists spent \$350,000,000 in Europe during last summer alone, according to United States Senator Smoot, who has introduced the park bureau bill in his House of Congress. The privilege of viewing the natural majesty of the Alps, Switzerland alone takes from tourists, each year, more than \$200,000,000, or a sum equal to that which would be raised by taxing each American citizen considerably more than \$2.

The American tourist army is now 200,000 strong, each year according to John Ball Osborne, chief of the Bureau of Trade Relations, Department of State. About half of these travel first-class and spend an average of \$1,000 apiece for transportation, board and lodging, and the other half travel second-class average \$500 apiece for these same items. This total of \$150,000,000 is entirely exclusive of purchases. And a hint as to the annual fortune which the Yankee tourist leaves with the European shopkeeper was given to Mr. Osborne this summer in Paris by an American citizen, who is a keen observer and, who has lived in the French capital for many years.

"I suggested," said Mr. Osborne, "that it seemed not impossible that American tourists expended annually in France, at least \$100,000,000. He replied that he believed that almost that sum was spent annually by our compatriots in the little Rue de la Paix—for jewelry on one side of the street and for gowns on the other."

Our Seven Scenic Wonders.
A shantily email proportion of the 200,000 annual European tourists ever behold the seven wonders of their own country, which we may catalogue as follows:

1. The oldest and biggest of living things—the giant trees of California—some of which have been growing since a thousand years before the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. The tallest of these, the "Dahlgren," towers to 292 feet, and the thickest, the "General Sherman," is thirty-six feet in diameter. Both are growing in the Sequoia National Park, where are also to be seen 1,100,000 other venerable trees, more than 12,000 of which are more than ten feet in diameter. A recent tourist aptly said that a bear ascending one of these monsters would look like a squirrel upon an ordinary tree, while it has been estimated that a single acre of such a monster forest is often as large as one of England's most majestic beeches.

2. The world's greatest natural bridges, those of Utah, compared with which the Natural Bridge of Virginia is but a miniature. The greatest of these four, the "Rainbow," discovered only a year and a half ago, and yet viewed by less than a few feet of white men, spans a space 300 feet above the river bed beneath and opening 275 feet from abutment to abutment at the base. Its span is 112 feet higher than the highest natural bridge of the Old World. Dr. Joseph E. Pogue, the mineralogist of the United States National Museum, who recently returned from a visit to this world wonder, says of it: "It would easily span, with room to spare, the dome of the Capitol at Washington, or, if hung over the Madison building of New York, its limbs would come within a few feet of the ground, though to the west of Fifth Avenue on the one hand, and to the east of Broadway on the other." This bridge was at once the largest and most remarkable known. Not only in size, but in shapeliness does it surpass any of its rivals. The world has never seen a bridge, if master minds, from the beginning, had wrought here, point it as only the

masters of old could paint, and you have El Capitan, the Colorado. Grandest View on Earth. The Yosemite Valley, said by many authors and travelers to present the grandest view on earth. 6. The new Glacier National Park, Montana, the "Alps of America," a paradise containing 1,300 square miles of unsurpassed mountain scenery, six-ty-eight glaciers and about 250 lakes. 7. Niagara, whose extent and scenic splendors are unparalleled, save in the black, inaccessible heart of Africa. Such are the seven great scenic wonders of our country. To the list might be added that unique freak of nature, the petrified forest of Arizona; that monster obelisk of lava and granite, the Devil's Tower, in Wyoming, 1,100 feet tall; the prehistoric ruins of the Southwest; the Painted Desert of Arizona; the Alaskan glaciers, the unconquered pinnacles of Mount McKinley and our wonderful caverns, especially South Dakota's "wind cave," with its 3,000 rooms, its 100 miles of corridors and its vast caverns, large enough to hold the Capital at Washington.

"If the Grand Canyon were in Egypt or the Alps it is safe to wager it would be visited by every one of the 300,000 Americans who yearly throng continental resorts, writes a tourist lately returned from one of our wonders. As it is, only 30,000 people a year visit the Canyon, and a large proportion of them are foreigners." (Copyright, 1912, by John Elfrith Watkins.)

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I know women's sufferings.
I have found the cure.
I will mail, free of any charge, my home treatment with full instructions to all women about this cure—you, my reader, for yourself, your daughter, your mother, or your sister. I want to tell you how to cure yourselves at home without the help of a doctor. Men cannot understand women's sufferings. What we women know from experience, we know better than any doctor. I know that many women are better than a safe and sure cure for Leucorrhoea or Whites, Discharges, Urinary Disorders, Pains in the Womb, Profuse, Displacement of the Uterus, Overturning or Gravidity, Prolapse of the Uterus, Pains in the Back, Head, and Stomach, bearing down feelings, nervousness, creeping feelings, the spine, melancholy, desire to cry, hot flashes, weariness, kidney and bladder troubles, where caused by weaknesses peculiar to women's structure.
I want to send you a complete ten day's treatment entirely free to prove to you that you can cure yourself at home, easily, quickly and surely. Remember, that it will cost you nothing to give the cure, or less than two cents a day. It will not interfere with your work or occupation, or your case, entirely free. How you suffer if you wish, and I will send you the treatment soon—WOMAN'S OWN MEDICAL ADVISER with explanatory illustrations showing how to use the medicine, and how they can easily cure themselves at home. Every woman should have it, and decide for herself. Thousands of women have cured themselves with my home remedy. You can cure or young. Write to me, I will explain a simple home treatment which speedsily and effectually cures Leucorrhoea, Green Discharge, and Pains in the Womb, and all other irregularities of the female system. Plumpness and health always result from its use.
If you have a doctor of your own locality who knows and will gladly let you have my home remedy, I will send you a complete ten day's treatment, strong, plump and robust. Just send me your address, and the free ten day's treatment is yours. Write to me, I will explain a simple home treatment which speedsily and effectually cures Leucorrhoea, Green Discharge, and Pains in the Womb, and all other irregularities of the female system. Plumpness and health always result from its use.

MRS. M. SUMMERS, Box H. Norle Dame, Ind., U. S. A.

to the Washington post-office.
Miss Mary E. Cox, after a visit to her cousin, Miss Mary Cox, at the home of the latter's parents, former Governor and Mrs. Cox, has returned to her home in Johnson City.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. McCain left this week for Southern Florida, where they will spend a few weeks.

BOWLING GREEN

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Bowling Green, Va., January 20.—W. A. Williams, of Essex county, spent a part of this week with his daughter, Mrs. Robert T. Glass, of Bowling Green. Mr. Williams, who has been visiting her parents in Richmond, has returned to the Lawn Hotel.

Lev. Hicks, of Washington, spent a portion of this week here with friends.

Webb Rains, of Richmond, spent a part of this week here.

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tively used for decorations. Miss Julia Bryan Jones presented the card tray. Miss Anna Minger and Mrs. James Mitchell welcomed the guests into the reception hall. Receiving with Mrs. Strahan and the guests of honor in the front parlor were Mrs. David Condon, sister of the bride-elect, Miss Sallie Jones, of Edenton, N. C., and Mrs. Wade Meadows, of Raleigh. Miss John T. Hollister presided over the punch-bowl, and Mrs. Ralph Hunter, of Raleigh, presided over the dinner. Mrs. Edward Meadows invited the guests to the dining-room, where they were received by Miss Mary Oliver and Miss Sallie Hollister. Misses Sallie Hancock and Jessie Whitehurst served a delicious ice cream and bonbons. At 8 o'clock the receiving party was invited to sit down to a beautiful and pointed dinner. Covers were laid for fifteen, and the place-cards were ornamental with hand-painted lilies of the valley, representing a bride's banquet, and much merriment was caused by assisting the bride-elect.

Miss Anna Minger entertained at an attractive card party Monday afternoon at her home on Middle Street in honor of Miss Henrietta Hancock. The lovely Henrietta, who is a very charming and profusely decorated in bamboo, palms and narcissi. Miss Martha Minger opened the door to the guests, and they were received by Miss Minger and Miss Hancock in the library. Miss Sara Congdon led the way to the dining-room, where a refreshing cup of tea and water were served. Miss David Congdon presided over the tea table. There were twelve tables of with baskets of lilies of the valley. After three rubbers a refreshing ice cream was served, followed by coffee and bonbons. Among those present were Misses Henrietta Hancock, Mary Hughes, Myrtle Disway, Mamie Hunter, Richmond, Eliza Bryan, Charlotte, Bessie Summerfield, Ivy Blades, Mary Waters, Hilda Gips, of Toronto, Canada; Sallie Jones, of Edenton, N. C.; Cammie Roberts, of Norfolk; Mary Nixen, Harriett Marks, Emma Drake, of Baltimore; Sara Congdon, Jane Stewart, Eulalia Willis and Bonnie Broadfoot, of Mecklenburg; Hester, Frank Hymen, Wade Meadows, Robert DeHaven, Raymond Pollock, Jan. Mitchell, of Easton, Vernon Blades, F. H. Sawyer, George Stratton, David Congdon and Richard Duffy.

RALEIGH

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Raleigh, N. C., January 20.—The Kennebec Book Club was entertained Tuesday afternoon by Miss Lola Briggs at her home on Hillsboro Street. Guests other than the club members were Mrs. J. C. Robards and Mrs. James Briggs, Jr. The club is making a study of drama this year, and there were readings at this meeting by Miss Florence Jones, Miss Leabon B. Buesen and by the hostess, The Fortnightly Review Club was entertained Tuesday afternoon by Dr. Della Dixon-Carroll. Mrs. Margaret Butler Shipp read a paper on "Realism in Fiction and Poetry." There were readings also by Mrs. George Strong and Mrs. James H. Pou.

Mrs. Henry Bagley entertained the Twentieth Century Book Club on Tuesday afternoon of last week in her apartments at Yarrowood Hotel, the literary study being John Fox and his writings.

The Tuesday Afternoon Club had Mrs. F. M. Harper for hostess last week. Guests were Mrs. T. N. Frey, Mrs. R. D. W. Connor, Mrs. Alfred Williams, Mrs. Seagle, Mrs. James Pou, Miss N. S. S. W. McC. White, Miss Dowd, of St. Mary's School, was hostess for the Johnsonian Book Club Thursday afternoon, the meeting being held in the parlors of the college.

Miss Fannie Heck has just returned from Baltimore for a few weeks. Mrs. Stephen C. Bragaw, of Washington, N. C., was the guest of Mrs. here. She was stopping at the Yarrowood Hotel with her husband, Judge Bragaw, who was holding the Wake Superior Court.

IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS AND RELATIVES



A GRANDMOTHER may not be as spry as she used to be, but she is in close touch with her world for all that. The telephone enables her to make as many calls as she pleases, and in all sorts of weather.

Formal gatherings have their place, but it is the many little intimate visits over the telephone that keep people young and interested.

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Are you giving her the chance to acquire this charming accomplishment? A good Piano means a great deal to her happiness and to yours.

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